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L12: Entry 1 of 2

File: PGPB

Mar 27, 2003

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20030060937 A1

TITLE: Vehicle information processing device, vehicle, and vehicle information processing method

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0052] In the in-vehicle device 1, vehicle handling detecting means 2 processes output of sensors placed in various operation means used for driving operations to detect vehicle operation by a driver 3 and output detection results as operation information. Specifically, the vehicle handling detecting means 2 detects opening of an accelerator pedal as an accelerating operation by the driver, an operation amount of a brake pedal as a braking operation, presence or absence of stop lamp flashing, a parking brake operation, a steering angle as a steering wheel operation, a shift position as a shift lever operation, operations of a light, a winker, a wiper, a window, a horn, or the like to output detection results. Thus, the in-vehicle device 1 can detect various operations of the driver 3.

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0057] Position detecting means 14 is configured by, for example, a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiving device that is part of a car navigation system, and detects vehicle's current position to output detection results.

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0058] The central processing unit 8 is a controller for controlling the entire behaviors of the in-vehicle device 1, and processes various detection results detected by the vehicle handling detecting means 2 and the vehicle condition detecting means 4 by the user's instruction detected via the operation panel 6 and the speech signal processing means 5. In this processing, the central processing unit 8 personifies the vehicle, generates a visual feeling about driver's handling of the vehicle, and communicate the virtual feeling to the user. When receiving user's instruction to direct in information communication by the virtual feeling, the central processing unit 8 processes current position information detected by position detecting means 14 and performs corresponding processing.

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0060] Neumann type computers are not good at processing of pseudo feeling expressions, and generally require large-scale processing. Thus, the central processing unit 8 expresses feelings such as anger or pleasure by two parameters of a feeling level and a physical fitness level. Therefore, the central processing unit 8 expresses the feelings by simplified processing. In this embodiment, when the driver 3 drives violently, it is projected that the vehicle feels uncomfortable, and the angry, sad or tired expression is selected as the vehicle's virtual feeling. On the other hand, when the driver 3 drives gently and calmly, it is projected that the vehicle feels comfortable in its virtual feelings, and the pleased or cheerful expression is selected. Such pseudo feeling expressions are the personified vehicle's emotional expressions about the driver's operations.

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0075] In this display screen, a character's face K expressing the vehicle's feeling is displayed on a position closer to a center of the vehicle. In the display screen, the character's face K is displayed in a circular form, and a

plurality of arcs are displayed concentrically with the outline of the face. In the display screen, a plurality of buttons B1 to B3 are displayed on the arc substantially at a center of the screen among the plurality of arcs. In FIG. 4, among the plurality of buttons B1 to B3, the uppermost button B1 is a button for opening a music content menu, and has an indication of a musical note. The next button B2 is a button for opening a movie content menu, and has an indication of a movie film. The lowermost button B3 is a button for an information content, and has an indication of a flag. The buttons B1 to B3 have indications "Listen to music", "See movie", "Travel navigation", respectively at their peripheries.

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0087] When the buttons B1 and B2 are operated, the central processing unit 8 makes accesses to unshown recording means to search providable corresponding contents. Further, the central processing unit 8 switches the display of the display unit 7 in accordance with search results. FIG. 19 is a plan view of a display when the button B2 for opening the movie content menu is operated in the basic display screen in FIG. 4. When the button B2 is operated in the basic display screen in FIG. 4, the central processing unit 8 moves the display position of the button B2 onto the inner arc. With the movement of the display position of the button B2, small circles corresponding to the buttons B1 and B3 are displayed on the arc on which the button B2 is displayed.

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0088] On the original display position of the buttons B1 to B3, buttons BB1 to BB3 for opening movie contents are displayed. The buttons BB1 to BB3 have indications of symbols, each symbol showing a rider who likes the content, and details of the contents are displayed adjacent to the symbols by text together with dates stored in the in-vehicle device 1. In FIG. 19, a symbol of a human face wearing a cap that suggests a boy is assigned to the buttons BB1, BB2, and a symbol of a ribbon that suggests a girl is assigned to the button BB3.

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0089] When the content selection screen is thus displayed, the central processing unit 8 also displays the emotions by the vehicle's virtual feelings as in the basic screen. When the original button B2 whose display position has been switched to the inner side is selected in the content selection screen, the central processing unit 8 returns the display screen in FIG. 19 to the original display screen (FIG. 4).

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0094] When the button B3 is selected, the central processing unit 8 displays the information content of a travel guide, a gourmet guide, or the like. When displaying a still image content, the central processing unit 8 displays page feed buttons in positive and negative directions corresponding to the content instead of the operation buttons of replay or pause.

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0095] When the direction button B3 is operated in the basic display screen, the central processing unit 8 switches the display to a navigation screen like a conventional car navigation device. This display includes the speech recognition processing button B5 displayed on the basic display screen.

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0108] FIG. 25 is a plan view of a display screen of the degree of haste when the user instructs to display the driving evaluation screen in a car navigation screen. As shown in FIG. 26 in contrast with FIG. 25, in this embodiment, a map is displayed in a trapezoidal display area with a shorter lower side, a current position and a traveling direction are indicated by arrows on the map, and a route is shown by a line of a different color, in processing of the car navigation. Balloons above an upper side of the display area indicate by text the current position, a next target position, and a distance to a destination.

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L8: Entry 1 of 2

File: PGPB

Mar 27, 2003

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20030060937 A1

TITLE: Vehicle information processing device, vehicle, and vehicle information processing method

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0094] When the button B3 is selected, the central processing unit 8 displays the information content of a travel guide, a gourmet guide, or the like. When displaying a still image content, the central processing unit 8 displays page feed buttons in positive and negative directions corresponding to the content instead of the operation buttons of replay or pause.

Detail Description Paragraph:

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L10: Entry 1 of 2

File: PGPB

Mar 27, 2003

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20030060937 A1

TITLE: Vehicle information processing device, vehicle, and vehicle information processing method

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0060] Neumann type computers are not good at processing of pseudo feeling expressions, and generally require large-scale processing. Thus, the central processing unit 8 expresses feelings such as anger or pleasure by two parameters of a feeling level and a physical fitness level. Therefore, the central processing unit 8 expresses the feelings by simplified processing. In this embodiment, when the driver 3 drives violently, it is projected that the vehicle feels uncomfortable, and the angry, sad or tired expression is selected as the vehicle's virtual feeling. On the other hand, when the driver 3 drives gently and calmly, it is projected that the vehicle feels comfortable in its virtual feelings, and the pleased or cheerful expression is selected. Such pseudo feeling expressions are the personified vehicle's emotional expressions about the driver's operations.

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0094] When the button B3 is selected, the central processing unit 8 displays the information content of a travel guide, a gourmet guide, or the like. When displaying a still image content, the central processing unit 8 displays page feed buttons in positive and negative directions corresponding to the content instead of the operation buttons of replay or pause.

Detail Description Paragraph:

[0095] When the direction button B3 is operated in the basic display screen, the central processing unit 8 switches the display to a navigation screen like a conventional car navigation device. This display includes the speech recognition processing button B5 displayed on the basic display screen.

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